

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Quarterly

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SPRING 1980

THE RUTLAND LIGHT GUARDS



Captain William Young Warren Ripley was the first man in Vermont to volunteer officially for the Union Army. His speech in the old Rutland Town Hall on Main Street inspired the Rutland Light Guards to volunteer as Company K of the 1st Regiment of Vermont Volunteers in the Civil War in May, 1861. The Rutland Light Guards had been organized as a unit of the state uniformed militia on November 13, 1858. In 1859 Ripley became Captain of the Rutland Light Guards. He later rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the First United States Sharpshooters.

RULES,
REGULATIONS
AND
BY-LAWS
OF THE
Rutland Light Guards.

RUTLAND:
CAIN & McLEAN, STEAM JOB PRINTERS,
1858.

THE RUTLAND LIGHT GUARDS was organized by Gen. F. W. Hopkins, under special order from the Commander-in-Chief, on the 13th November, 1858.

The company then numbered about sixty-five members, consisting of young men of such character and standing, and of such zeal and energy, as give the most favorable auspices for future permanency and success.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

CAPT. H. HENRY BAXTER,
1st LIEUT. WM. Y. W. RIPLEY,
2d LIEUT. IRA C. FOSTER,
3d LIEUT. CYREL CARPENTER

DIRECTORS.

HON. SOLOMON FOOT,
CAPT. H. H. BAXTER,
GEN. ISAAC McDANIELS.

COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS.

GEN. F. W. HOPKINS,
CAPT. H. H. BAXTER,
GEN. ISAAC McDANIELS.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

1st SERGT. ISAAC McDANIELS,
2d SERGT. GEORGE T. ROBERTS,
3d SERGT. JAMES M. PUTNAM,
4th SERGT. LYMAN E. ROYS.

1st CORPORAL OSCAR G. MOWER,
2d CORPORAL L. G. KINGSLEY,
3d CORPORAL WM. H. H. GOULD,
4th CORPORAL JOHN B. KILBURN,

GEORGE E. GRAVES, Clerk.
MARK S. RICHARDSON, Treasurer.

OREL COOK, JR., Surgeon.

MEMBERS OF THE RUTLAND LIGHT GUARDS.

Allen, A. B.	Kinne, L. D.
Baxter, H. Henry	Landon, Walter C.
Bennett, Wm. H.	Litchfield, Wm. W.
Billings, Benj. Jr.	Lyon, Thomas
Billings, J. D.	McDaniels, Isaac Gen.
Brackett, J. D. F.	McClure, David G.
Bradford, H. J.	Marrs, Thomas
Carpenter, Cyrel	Morehouse, R. D.
Chaffee, Frederick	Moulthrop, Robert
Cluff, S. F.	Mower, George C.
Collins, I. N.	Mower, Oscar G.
Cutting, Wm. W.	Nichols, Wm. T.
Douglass, H. B.	Page, Thomas J.
Dunklee, George	Patch, Albert
Edgerton, Wm. G.	Patterson, C. B.
Fenn, Francis	Piper, I. R.
Fernham, Charles	Putnam, James M.
Foster, Ira C.	Richardson, Mark S.
Goddard, Joseph	Richardson, C. F.
Godno, Wm. A.	Ripley, Wm. Y. W.
Gould, Wm. H. H.	Roberts, George T.
Graves, George E.	Roys, Lyman
Green, Nahum J.	Staley, S. G.
Harlow, D.	Thompson, Wm. B.
Hills, Frank C.	Thrall, Wm. B.
Hills, C. P.	Todd, Orin
Howard, Judson N.	Turner, M. C.
Howe, C. E.	Tower, Bradley
Jenness, Samuel D.	Weeden, S. B.
Kingsley, L. D.	Willard, I. R.
Kingsley, Robert	Williams, Moses
Kingsley, M. P.	Williams, Samuel
Kirburn John B.	Wyman, J. R.

RULES AND REGULATIONS **from the** **MILITIA LAWS**

Article 1. Each uniform corps shall annually elect three directors of such corps, who may contract and be contracted with, and may hold, purchase, and convey, for the benefit of the corps, such estate, real or personal, as may be necessary for the use of the corps.

Art. 2. It shall be the duty of the directors to take charge of, and safely preserve, and keep in good order and repair, the arms, instruments, and munitions of war, belonging to the state, which may be entrusted to the corps; and for this purpose they may purchase or provide a suitable armory, and take charge of the same: and they shall take charge and have a general supervision of all the property belonging to the corps. And for defraying the expenses of such armory and other necessary matters, they may raise and collect such taxes as the majority of the corps shall by vote direct, at any regular meeting warned for that purpose.

Art. 3. The directors may, when authorized by such vote of the corps, purchase the necessary uniforms and equipments for the whole number, at their own expense, and may annually lease the same to the several members thereof for such annual rent as shall be reasonable or just; or when authorized by the corps to purchase uniforms and equipments for individual members, they shall have power to collect payment for the same from each member thereof: or such corps shall procure such uniform and equipments in such other way as they shall by vote direct.

Art. 4. All the property of the state in the care of the corps shall be kept at a general depot, and no member shall be permitted to take away any article therefrom, unless by permission of the captain, and then only to be used on military occasions, under a penalty of five dollars.

Art. 5. The captain shall preside at all meetings for the transaction of business, preserve order, appoint all committees, call extra meetings, inflict penalties provided by the by-laws, and see that the laws are carried into effect. He shall have no vote on any question coming before the corps, except in case of an equal division, when his vote shall decide. In his absence the oldest officer present shall exercise his duty.

Art. 6. Each corps shall annually elect a treasurer, who shall receive from the Justice before whom fines are collected, all moneys for fines recovered from the members of the corps, giving his receipt therefor, and all other moneys belonging to the corps, and shall pay out the same on orders drawn on him by the auditor; and shall keep a book of accounts, in which he shall charge himself with all moneys received, from whatever source, and credit himself with all moneys paid out on such orders; and shall pay out no money except on such orders; and shall render an account to the corps once in each year.

Art. 7. Each corps shall annually elect an auditor, who shall audit all accounts of the directors and others, and shall draw his order on the treasurer for the payment of such account, or such parts thereof as he shall allow. He shall keep an accurate account of all orders drawn by him, and all accounts on file as his vouchers, and shall exhibit the same to the corps annually.

Art. 8. All moneys in the treasury of each corps, whether collected from fines or from whatever source, shall be appropriated to the purchase of armories, uniforms, equipments, tents, musical instruments, repairing and cleaning arms, or any other purpose not inconsistent with this act and military usage, to which they shall, by their vote or by-laws, apply the same.

Art. 9. The clerk shall receive out of any funds of the corps five dollars annually as a compensation for keeping the records, rolls, and issuing orders and making returns, and for other services which may be required by this act.

Art. 10. All notifications for drills, meetings and other purposes, shall be given by publication thereof, signed by the clerk, in some newspaper, circulating within the corps; and if there be no such paper, then such notification shall be given as provided for other companies in this act, unless otherwise provided for by the by-laws of such corps.

Art. 11. Each corps shall parade for instruction and drill, and shall hold such other meetings for improvement and business, in addition to the times prescribed in this act, as they shall by their vote or by-laws direct.

Art. 12. The treasurer of each corps shall give bonds to the captain, with one or more sureties, in the sum of five hundred dollars.

BY-LAWS and RULES AND REGULATIONS

Article 1. This Company shall be known and designated The Rutland Light Guards.

Art. 2. Any person may be admitted a member of the company by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, on signing the Rules and Regulations, provided he be proposed by the committee of examination, hereinafter provided.

Art. 3. There shall be chosen annually, in the month of December, a committee of three to be called a committee of examination, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the character of every applicant for admission into the company; and if such applicant shall be found to be suitable, they shall propose him to the company for admission.

Art. 4. To enforce the principles of *subordination*, at all meetings of the company, the senior officer present shall preside, and strict *obedience* shall be paid to his commands, both in debate and in military maneuvers, and the members of the company pledge themselves to support their officers in the discharge of their duties on all occasions, and to discountenance all improper conduct, and insubordination that may be discovered towards any of them.

Art. 5. The Orderly Sergeant shall attend every meeting of the company, and shall parade them, call the roll, or receive the reports of the sergeants and corporals under him, unless otherwise ordered. He shall prepare all new members for the ranks, by teaching them the steps, facings wheelings and the manual exercise, calling in aid such Sergeants and Corporals as he may deem necessary; unless a competent instructor be otherwise provided for that purpose. He shall also keep an orderly book with a roll of the names of the members.

Art. 6. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a record of the proceedings of the company, all orders issued, and notify all meetings as required by law. He shall collect all moneys due to the company, from whatever source, and pay over to the treasurer once a month, and keep an account of the same. He shall, at the first regular meeting in each month, report an account of all moneys received, and all that are in arrears at that time.

Art. 7. The Treasurer shall discharge all the duties required of him by the Rules and Regulations provided by statute. He shall give bonds in the sum of two hundred dollars, and shall render an account once a month, at the first monthly meeting.

Art. 8. If any member shall be found intoxicated, with the uniform of the company on him, the Captain shall take immediate measures for his discharge.

Art. 9. It shall be the duty of the Lieutenants to examine the uniforms and equipments of the soldiers, whenever called together for military duty, and if any member be found deficient in any article, he shall pay a fine of twenty-five cents for each article.

Art. 10. The members shall pay such assessments, at such times and in such sums as they shall by vote provide, for the expenses and for the benefit of the company.

Art. 11. Any member may be discharged by a vote of the company, provided, every debt he may owe the company be paid, and not otherwise, unless the company shall cancel such debt.

Art. 12. If any member be guilty of any disorderly conduct while on duty, he may be dismissed from the company by a vote of a majority present at any regular meeting.

Art. 13. Any member who shall absent himself from any two successive meetings, for drill or any other business, shall pay a fine of twenty-five cents, which fine shall in no case be remitted.

If he neglect to attend on public parade days, he shall pay a fine of one dollar, if not until after roll-call, fifty cents.

If he shall retire from a private meeting, without leave of the presiding officer, he shall pay a fine of fifty cents.

If any member shall leave town, to be absent one week or more, without obtaining a furlough from the officer commanding, and notifying the clerk thereof, he shall pay all assessments and fines accruing during his absence.

If he shall remove his residence without notifying the clerk, he shall pay a fine of twenty-five cents.

Art. 14. Any deceased member shall be buried with military honors, unless it be contrary to the wishes of his friends; and any one who shall neglect to attend on such an occasion, shall pay three dollars, unless a satisfactory excuse be rendered within ten days after.

Art. 15. The Orderly Sergeant shall examine the company's books and accounts and settle with the Clerk and Treasurer, and report thereon at the first meetings in June and December, annually.

Art. 16. Each section shall meet, during the winter months, one evening in each week; and the regular meetings of the company shall be on the first Monday of each month, at such time and place as shall be designated by vote.

Art. 17. Each member pledges himself to uniform and equip himself in such manner as shall be designated by a vote of the company.

Art. 18. These Rules and Regulations shall be published in pamphlet form, and distributed to each member; shall be recorded in the Orderly Book and signed by each member, and may be amended by a vote of two-thirds present at any regular meeting, notice thereof being given at a regular meeting previous.



ROBERT F. WHITE. MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF RUTLAND, VT. BY PRESLEY & EDWARDS, 1862. RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Franklin House was one of the leading taverns in Rutland. Located on the site of the Munn Tavern of the late eighteenth century, it was kept by Henry Gould in the early nineteenth century. In 1829 Nathaniel Gould, brother of Henry, refitted the building and renamed it the Franklin House. The building had numerous operators until its destruction by fire on April 3, 1868.

THE FIRST VETERANS

The Rutland Light Guards — Their Organization — Who Composed it — A Splendid Record.

This company was organized Nov. 13th, 1858. The first meeting at which the formation of the company dated from, was held Sept. 11th the same year, that also being the date of the declaration which was signed by the members, but after the signature it was necessary for authority from the commander in chief to organize and elect officers. The adjutant general at that time was Geo. B. Kellogg, and Gen. F. W. Hopkins was directed to cause the enrollment and preside at the election of officers which he did Nov. 13. There were sixty-three names enrolled and the following persons elected officers: captain, H. H. Baxter; 1st Lieut. W. Y. W. Ripley; 2d Lieut., Ira C. Foster; 3d Lieut., Cyril Carpenter. At that time it was necessary, to have directors of the company, and usually they were not all members of the company. The following were elected: Hon. Solomon Foot, H. H. Baxter and Isaac McDaniels. At the next meeting the following non-commissioned officers were appointed by Capt. Baxter: 1st sergeant, Isaac McDaniels; 2d, Geo. T. Roberts; 3d, J. M. Putnam; 4th, L. E. Royce; 1st corporal, O. G. Mower; 2d, L. G. Kingsley; 3d, W. H. H. Gould; 4th, J. B. Kilburn. The selectmen allowed the company the use of the town hall, and General Hopkins kindly consented to drill the company, but Captain Brush was soon employed to do the drilling. Within three months fifteen new recruits were taken. About this time the question of a uniform came up. The officers subscribed \$250 towards it, 23 men purchased a uniform out and out, and 31 paid one-half the price of a uniform. The Rutland and Burlington R. R. gave \$100, and 42 citizens gave \$500 more. Afterwards Captain Baxter gave \$100 more and \$213 to pay the entire bill was made up later. The uniform was gray, trimmed with red and gilt. For the support of the company each member was taxed, but as some had more cash than others, or were better able to pay, the company was divided into two classes: No. 1 to be assessed \$2.75 and class No. 2, \$1.50 per annum. On Nov. 7, 1859, Captain Baxter resigned on account of his election to the office of Adj't General of the State, and lieutenant Foster on account of poor health. W. Y. W. Ripley was unanimously elected captain; G. T. Roberts, 1st lieutenant; L. E. Royce 2d lieutenant, and L. G. Kingsley 3d lieutenant. On November 19th, pursuant to arrangement the company had a target shoot, during a hard rain, at the fair grounds, J. B. Kilburn winning the gold medal, which he was to hold for one year and which was then to be put up again. After the target practice, at which 39 competed, the company had a dinner at the Franklin house. Senator Foot was present and made a speech, as also did major Howard and captain Ripley. On February 6th, L. G. Kingsley was elected 2nd lieutenant, vice Royce resigned, and J. B. Kilburn 3d lieutenant, vice Kingsley promoted. In March captain Ripley notified the company "that they were very much in need of a bass drum," and they purchased one, although the records do not say what it was needed for, unless to take the place of cannon. Under date of May 8th we find the following singular record, "—"who had been discharged "refused to return his uniform, the reason said to be given by him for not returning it is that he was not of age when he enlisted into the company and was not legally holden to the agreement signed by him. (In justice to the memory of Mr. — we will add that his name is down among those who paid in full for one uniform, and that afterwards the uniform was returned. Later Mr. — was distinguished in the union cause — Ed.) May 17, '60, the Co. buried with military honors their first comrade, S. R. Weeden. July 4, 1860, the company visited Troy with 64 men. The company were the guests of the citizens' corps and of General Wool. They marched to his residence, and each man was introduced to the general, after which they partook of refreshments on the veranda of his house. Those who went can explain more about that. The charge of the railroad was \$100 and of the band \$2 per man. On the 16th of August following the company helped celebrate at Bennington the anniversary of the battle of Bennington. A characteristic resolution we copy for the benefit of the present organization:

Whereas on the occasion of the parade of the Rutland Light Guards on Saturday last, Mr. —, a member of the corps, became so much intoxicated as to be unable to attend to the duties of his office:

Resolved, That the said — be expelled from the company, and his name be stricken from the roll.

We find that in those days there was such a thing as muster, and at a meeting held August 20th the order for the company to muster at Berlin, near Montpelier, August 29th, 30th and 31st was read. The Keene, N. H. band offered their services free of expense excepting the payment of their fares from Keene to Rutland. Each man was to take in his haversack three days' rations. In the resolution of thanks which was passed on the return of the company from the muster we find that each member of the Light Guard pledged himself to "extend the reputation of the Keene Band," and also that E. A. Chapin, of the Rutland and Burlington railroad passed the band from and to Keene. On November 13th the second annual target shoot took place at the fair ground. Three rounds were fired by each soldier, Henry Davis winning the medal; Edgar M. Rounds taking the 2d prize of \$12, William Rounds the 3d of \$8, and William Dorrance the 4th of \$5. After the shooting the company sat down to a sumptuous repast at the Central house, kept by sergeant Walter Landon, and listened to the annual and eloquent speech of senator Foot. Major Howard, Messrs. John Cain, Brownson, Nichols, Lieut. Roberts and quartermaster sergeant McManners also delighted the boys with bursts of eloquence.

About this time the company had a ball, and the first meeting of the new year was signalled by a report of the ball committee that the company lost \$43.09 on that ball.



The west side of Merchants Row showed commercial development in 1870. From left to right were the Central House, Kingsley's Old Red Store, J. Auld's Fish Market, Clifford's Meat Market and the Rutland County Bank. The tallest building next north was the Ripley Block and Opera House.

This brings us down to an important epoch in the history, not only of the Light Guards, but of the country. On February 9th a special meeting was called to consider an important general order emanating from the authorities of Vermont, and if we are not mistaken it is the first action taken by any of the states in reference to the great war, upon the brink of which the country then stood; the first action looking toward a war, and as the action was that of a state official who was, not only the first captain of the Light Guards, but actually a member at the time, and as the first response was made to the call by this company it is eminently proper that it should be embodied in the history of it. The following is the order:

State of Vermont
Adj't and Insp'r Gen. Office
Rutland, Jan. 25, 1861

It is hereby ordered that the commanding officers of each company of the uniformed militia ascertain at once whether any men in their command are unable or indisposed to respond to the orders of the commander-in-chief, made upon any requisition of the president of the United States, to aid in the maintenance of the laws and the peace of the union, that they may be discharged and their places filled by men ready for any public exigency which may arise.

H. H. Baxter, Adj't and Ins'r Gen.

It seems that private Nichols made an address to the boys which was received with great applause and enthusiasm, after which the roll was called, and those in favor of responding to this order answered "Yes", while those opposed "No." There were 75 members of the company, of whom 53 were present. Of those present 52 responded yes and one no, and nine of the absent 22 voted by proxy, yes. We will not give the name of the solitary individual who objected to fight in the defense of his country, — but that our readers may judge of the character of the man, we will relate a little incident. On the return from their three months campaign, a jollification was given the company at which that solitary person was present. At a convenient opportunity he sided up to Capt. Ripley and whispered, "I'm awful sorry I didn't go, you had a jolly time, didn't you; if I had only known that there would have been no one hurt, I would have gone."



General Horace Henry Baxter arrived in Rutland in 1854 as a successful railroad contractor and builder at the age of 36. In Rutland he entered the marble business by the purchase of the William F. Barnes marble quarries, which he later incorporated into the Rutland Marble Company. His talents for organization were brought to the benefit of the State of Vermont when he was appointed Adjutant General of the State of Vermont, a post he held during most of the Civil War.

On April 1st, the company had a meeting at which a number of new members were elected, then the record skips to the 25th, passing over the day at which the chivalry from South Carolina fired the shot which echoed from every mountain crag, and broke the bands which shackled three million bondsmen. On the 25th, the company was called together "to make the final arrangements for active service in the U.S. army," which shows that the company was one of those accepted by the State to form the 1st regiment. The company letter was K, it numbered 79 rank and file. The following are the names:

Captain	W. Y. W. Ripley
1st Lieutenant	G. T. Roberts
2d "	L. G. Kingsley
1st sergeant	W. G. Edgerton
2d "	J. A. Sheldon
3d "	W. C. Landon
4th "	T. Lamson
Corporals:	S. G. Staley, W. B. Thrall,
	E. M. Rounds, E. Coppins
Drummer	W. H. H. Gould
Fifer	W. M. Round

Bradford, H. J.
 Blaisdell, A. C.
 Barrett, C.
 Buel, S. T.
 Croft, G. E.
 Claghorn, C.
 Clark, S. M.
 Clark, R.
 Davis, W. H.
 Davis, G. E.
 Dudley, C. P.
 Dorrance, W. J.
 Donnelly, J.
 Everson, G. J.
 Everson, J., Jr.
 Fenn, F.
 Gaines, J. C.
 Gillmore, W. R.
 Griggs, G. H.
 Green, N. J.
 Gee, F.
 Gleason, D. M.
 Geru, Z.
 Goslin, M.
 Hall, I. S.
 Huntoon, F. T.
 Huntoon, C. F.
 Hicks, E. B.
 Howard, J. N.
 Hills, C. K.
 Hills, G. P.
 Kenney, L. D.



Kelley, S. H.
 Lyman, M.
 Lee, G. A.
 Leach, M. W.
 Moulthrop, R.
 Moore, J. G.
 Nichols, W. T.
 Newman, T. R.
 Newcomb, G. W.
 Parker, A.
 Rouse, H. D.
 Rounds, R.
 Ross, J. W.
 Reynolds, E.
 Post, J. E.
 Smith, J. F. E.
 Smith, A. D.
 Spencer, A.
 Spaun, A. W.
 Southard, T.
 Sheldon, H. G.
 Thompson, W. B.
 Thayer, G. F.
 Thayer, W. H.
 Thrall, B. B.
 Thrall, R. R.
 Turrel, S.
 Warren, G. W.
 Webb, H.
 White, A. W.
 Whitney, E.
 Bronson, M. V. B.

The following is a brief record of the members of the company:

Captain W. Y. W. Ripley was appointed Lieut. Col. in 1st Reg. U.S. Sharp Shooters, and was in command of his regiment in nearly all of the battles of the Peninsula campaign. In several instances he distinguished himself by personal bravery and gallant conduct. At the battle of Malvern Hill he was severely wounded in the leg and obliged to leave the service. Afterwards appointed colonel of the 10th Vt. but unable to accept on account of his wound.

Lieutenant George T. Roberts was appointed colonel of the 7th Vt. Reg. 1861, and fell at the battle of Baton Rouge, in 1862. Colonel Roberts was one of the bravest of Vermont's sons, and none knew him but to love and respect him.

Lieutenant Levi G. Kingsley was elected captain of the Rutland Light Guards August 11th, 1862. The company was then ordered into service and assigned to the 12th Vt. regiment, nine months men, commanded by Col. A. P. Blunt. Captain Kingsley was promoted to major Sept. 27, 1862.

Sergeant Walter C. Landon was 1st lieutenant in Co. K, 12th Vt. and was promoted to captain, Sept. 27, 1862. He resigned in February, 1863.

Corporal Stephen G. Staley was 2d lieutenant in Co. K, was promoted to 1st lieutenant and then to captain. He died in March, 1875.

Corporal Edgar M. Rounds was 1st serg't of Co. K. and afterwards promoted to 2d lieutenant and finally to 1st lieutenant.

Moses W. Leach was 2d serg't and afterwards promoted to 2d lieutenant of Co. K.

Corporal Edward Coppins was 3d serg't and afterwards 1st serg't of Co. K.

William H. Davis was promoted 2d serg't

Milo Lyman was promoted 3d serg't

Martin Goslin was promoted 4th serg't

Reuben Thrall was promoted 5th serg't

William F. Nichols was colonel of the 14th Vt. nine months men.

Harley G. Sheldon was a sergeant in Co. H, 14th Vt. and was afterwards promoted 2d lieutenant in company K.

George W. Newcomb enlisted in the U. S. Infantry and was promoted sergeant.

Edwin F. Reynolds was commissioned captain of company F, 6th Vt. and fell at the battle of Lee's Mills, while leading his company. He was a valued and brave officer, and died, as he lived, a true soldier.

Elijah Whitney was commissioned 1st lieutenant in company F, 6th Vt. and has since resigned.

George W. Warren was appointed lieutenant in a N.Y. regiment, afterwards promoted captain and then major. He died last March.

M. V. Bronson was commissioned lieutenant in the 1st U. S. sharp shooters.

Charles P. Dudley was commissioned captain of company E, 5th Vt. and afterwards promoted major. Major Dudley was a very brave officer. He lost an arm while cutting his way through the rebel lines at the battle of the Wilderness and died a few days after from his wounds.

Franklin F. Huntoon was commissioned 1st lieutenant in company H, 1st Vt. cavalry, and was afterwards promoted to captain of his company. He was taken prisoner in the spring of 1863.

Zebulon Grue enlisted in company H, 1st Vt. cavalry, and promoted sergeant.

George Everson, James Everson and Albert Spencer enlisted in company H, 1st Vt. cavalry.

Samuel H. Kelley was commissioned 1st lieutenant in company B, 10th Vt., afterwards promoted to captain of his company.

Myron Clark enlisted in the 11th R.I., and was promoted to sergeant.

Sergeant William G. Edgerton was appointed captain in the 11th regulars, August 5, 1861.

George Lee was 1st sergeant in the 11th regulars.

Sergeant John A. Sheldon was commissioned captain of company C, 10th Vt., afterwards commissary of subsistence.

George Croft was commissioned 2d Lieutenant in company D, 7th Vt., afterwards captain of it.

HERALD EXTRA.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16,—3 P. M. 1861

THE FIRST REGIMENT.

At the time of our going to press this morning, it was expected, from information previously received from Brattleboro that the Regiment would leave that place this morning at ten o'clock, and we so stated it in our columns. That information however, proves not to have been strictly correct, and we have thought best to give to our village readers the following special dispatch, which we have just received from Sergt. Edgerton of the Rutland Light Guard :

Special Dispatch to the Herald.

BRATTLEBORO, AUG. 16,
2.30 P. M.

We leave here for Rutland at four o'clock, this afternoon. This is official.

WM. G. EDGERTON.

in the service. On April 5, 1862, the company elected a set of provisional officers to act during the *interregnum*, although the election was without warrant of law. The following were the officers: Captain L. G. Kingsley; 1st lieutenant, J. A. Sheldon; 2d, W. C. Landon; 3d, T. Lamson. On April 21, notice of the death of a comrade in the person of Captain Edward Reynolds, of the 6th Vt. regiment, who fell at the battle of Lee's Mills, the 17th, was received, and a meeting of the Light Guards was held at which W. T. Nichols gave some interesting reminiscences of the career of the dead comrade. Appropriate resolutions were passed and it was decided to give a military funeral to the deceased.

August 11, pursuant to an order from Adj. and Insp. Gen. P. T. Washburn, the company legally elected the following officers: Captain, L. G. Kingsley; 1st lieutenant W. C. Landon; 2d, S. G. Staley. The order from Gen. Washburn prohibited the election of a 3d lieutenant, which locates the time when the State conformed itself to the U. S. regulation for the number of officers in a company. During the year a large number of persons had been elected members of the Rutland Light Guards to fill the drain upon its ranks which active services in the field seemed to make upon it. August 19, the company voted to offer its services to the State a second time, and were accepted for nine months service. At the same meeting the death of Colonel Geo. S. Roberts, of the 7th Vt. and lieutenant of the Light Guards, from wounds received at the battle of Baton Rouge was announced, and appropriate resolutions were passed. The Co. was assigned to the 12th regiment, Colonel Belmont, and left for Brattleboro, where they went into camp September 26. After arriving at Brattleboro, Captain Kingsley was elected Major of the regiment and lieutenant W. C. Landon was promoted Captain, 2d lieutenant S. G. Staley promoted 1st lieutenant, and sergeant E. M. Rounds promoted 2d lieutenant. The following were the non-commissioned officers of the company, as they were composed on leaving for the front. Sergeants, M. W. Leach, Ed Coppins, W. H. Davis and Milo Lyman. Corporals, Martin Goslin, R. R. Thrall, Theo Southard, Geo. E. Davis, Chas. Claghorn, Geo. H. Griggs, D. M. Gleason and Ruel Rounds. Drummer, Chas. Mason. Fifer, W. M. Smith. In addition to the commission and non-commissioned officers, there were 82 men, making the number of rank and file 99 men, as follows:

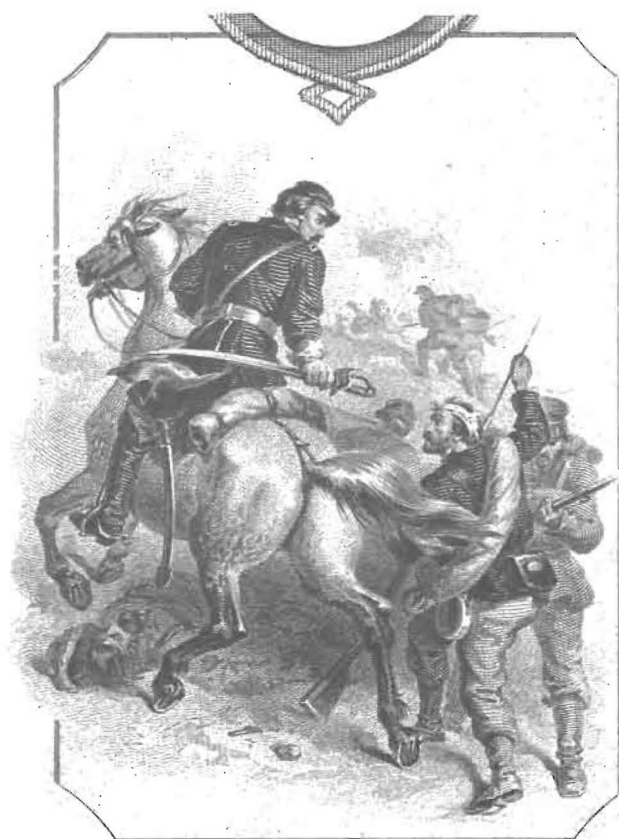
Hardy, J., wagoner
 Barney, H.
 Barrett, C.
 Bateman, C. P.
 Birdsall, N. T.
 Bissell, A. B.
 Bixby, J. M.
 Bourasso, N.
 Bradley, J. H.
 Burnett, A. B.
 Button, W. H.
 Cady, F. F.
 Campbell, W.
 Capron, H. W.
 Cheney, H. L.
 Chittenden, D.
 Clark, E.
 Clark, M. C.
 Clifford, S. H.
 Clifford, T.
 Conners, W.
 Constantine, J.
 Davis, J. H.
 Dyer, J. H.
 Edson, A. W.
 Edson, M. C.
 Felt, W. W.



Field, A. W.
 Field, R. A.
 Fridett, J.
 Frink, J. S.
 Fuller, A.
 Fuller, J.
 Gee, F.
 Gleason, W. H.
 Gould, D. L.
 Gould, H. L.
 Granger, C. H.
 Harkness, W. E.
 Hathorne, C. A.
 Haynes, D. B.
 Hemenway, L. H.
 Jackson, E. C.
 Jackson, W. C.
 Jackson, W. H.
 Kennedy, M.
 Lee, H. H.
 Loesel, P.
 Lyston, E.
 Lyston, J. D.
 Mailhoit, J. P.
 McClure, L. A.
 Mead, J. A.
 Moore, J. G.

Moore, T. A. E.
 Mussey, W. A.
 Nelson, E. S.
 Oney, W.
 Parker, A.
 Patch, J. H.
 Persons, L. L.
 Phalen, J.
 Plumer, C.
 Powers, C. J.
 Ray, G. H.
 Reynolds, T. E.
 Ripley, C. H.
 Rock, W.

Ross, A. D.
 Shaw, W. B.
 Sherry, M.
 Sherry, S.
 Slattery, M.
 Spaulding, C. R.
 Spawn, A. W.
 Tower, E. M.
 Tower, H. C.
 Wardwell, M. H.
 Waterhouse, C.
 Wilkins, G. A.
 Wilson, J.
 Winter, P.



The record of Co. K, 12th regiment, for it seems the same letter was given the company in the 12th that they had in the 1st regiment, was briefly as follows: October 7, 1862, left for Washington and arrived on the 9th. Up the 29th the second Vt. brigade, which consisted of the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth regiments, all nine months men, broke camp at East Capitol Hill, and crossing the Potomac, encamped on the Lee farm beyond Arlington Heights. November 9 they changed camp, locating near Fort Lyon, two miles from Alexandria. November 7, after some two weeks they went into winter quarters, Gen. Stoughton taking command of the brigade. December 12, they left their comfortable winter shanties, and marched to Fairfax Court House. From the 17th to and including the 20th, the 12th regiment did picket duty at Centerville. On December 21st Gen. Stoughton encamped the brigade in a pine grove near Fairfax Court House. On the night of December 28, 1862, the 12th regiment was under arms all night, and the next morning a large body of rebel cavalry attempted unsuccessfully to break through the lines. January 21, 1863, the 12th and 13th marched to Wolf Run Shoals, arriving the next day. The first snow storm which was a severe one occurred January 28. February 15, captain Landon resigned; 1st lieutenant Staley was appointed captain; 2d lieutenant Rounds 1st lieutenant, and orderly sergeant Leach 2d lieutenant. On March 9, the commander of the brigade, Gen. Stoughton, was captured. Sunday, May 3, the regiment took the cars at Union Mills, and rode to Catlet's Station, where K and G were left, rest of regiment went on to Bealton. There was a cavalry fight at Warrenton Junction, near Catlet's Station. May 26, all engaged in intrenching, Hooker in command, and June 15, the army is in motion; on the 17th the last train passed of Hooker's army, and the regiment moved back to Wolf Run Shoals and encamped near Mrs. Wilcoxson's. On the 25th broke camp and commenced the march, no one knowing where the brigade is bound; that night encamped beyond Centerville. This was the commencement of the march into Maryland, and Pennsylvania, after Lee, who had evaded Hooker. It rained all day; June 26 rain also continued, and so did the march, march, march of the brigade. Encamped at Hamden station for the night. On Saturday, 27, crossed Potomac river, leaving camp at 5 a.m., and camped at Pottsville for the night. Sunday the brigade was still engaged in its tramp, tramp, tramp, stopping at night near Adamstown. Monday, marched all day in the rain, men dropping by the wayside, footsore and weary. Passed through Frederick, Md., at noon and camped two miles north for rest. Tuesday, June 30, up bright and early, but found the heavens still weeping, and all day the brigade tramped on in a drenching rain through muddy roads, many of the men leaving blood in their tracks. At night encamped near Evansburgh, Md.

The tramp, tramp, tramp of the Union army had now brought them near the rebels, and on the memorable 1st of July the 2d Vt. brigade broke camp at 10 a.m., and the 12th regiment together with the 15th are ordered by Sickles to guard the 1st corps train. The brigade is a part of the 1st Div. 1st corps. It rained hard all day, and in the middle of the afternoon they arrived within three miles of Gettysburg. We drop the record. On the 5th, Sunday, the regiment started for Baltimore as escort of 2,500 prisoners, which they handed over to the authorities there. On the 9th, they arrived at Brattleboro and were mustered out within a few days, Co. K reaching Rutland the 16th. During the march after Lee, after breaking camp in Virginia, the company tramped 125 miles in eight days, during every one of which it rained. It certainly was rough on the boys, but if it had not rained, as many of Lee's officers have testified, the Union army would not have come up with the rebels, and the ending might have been different.

Of the company, corporal Chas. Barrett, privates J. H. Bradley, Augustus Fuller and H. L. Gould died in service; Anthony Parker deserted October 6, '62, and Michael Sherry was discharged for disability.

This article about the Rutland Light Guards is a reprint of an article that appeared in the Saturday Evening Review, Vol. III, No. 22, Burlington, Vermont, September 13, 1879.



Centreville, Virginia.—Past this little stone church on the night of July 20, 1861, and long into the morning of the twenty-first marched lines of hurrying troops. Their blue uniforms were new, their muskets bright and polished, and though some faces were pale their spirits were elated, for after their short training they were going to take part, for the first time, in the great game of war. It was the first move of the citizen soldier of the North toward actual conflict. Not one knew exactly what lay before him. The men were mostly from New England and the Middle States. They had left desk and shop and farm and forge, and with the thought in their minds that the war would last for three months the majority had been mustered in. Only the very wise and farseeing had prophesied the immensity of the struggle, and these were regarded as extremists. So on they went in long lines down the road in the darkness of the night, chattering, laughing and talking carelessly, hardly realizing in the contagion of their patriotic ardor the grim meaning of real war. The surprising battle that opened early in the morning, and whose results spread such consternation through the North, was really the result of popular clamor.



The Kingsley Guard was the Rutland Company of the Vermont National Guard. It was named after General Levi G. Kingsley, who was elected Brigade Commander of the National Guard of Vermont in 1882. This photograph shows the Rutland unit in camp at St. Johnsbury in 1883. The officer with the full beard in the center is General Kingsley.

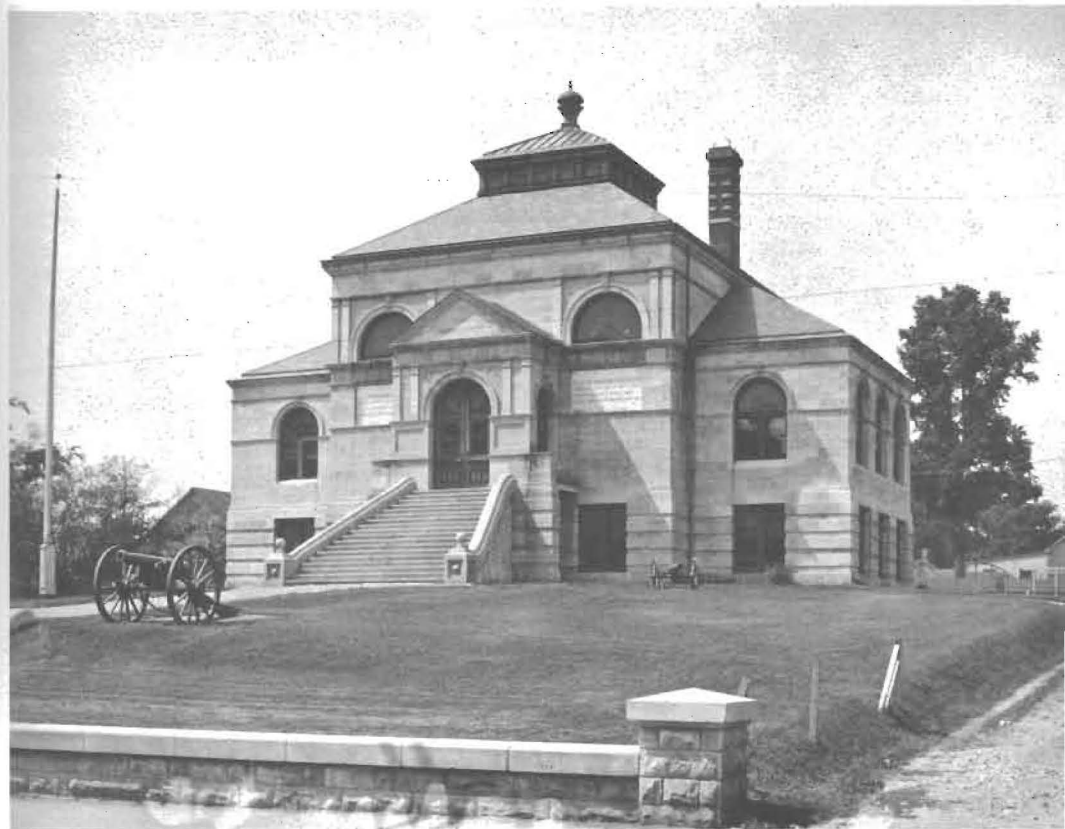


The members of Roberts Post #14 of the Vermont Department of the Grand Army of the Republic were photographed on the steps of Memorial Hall on West Street. This post was chartered November 11, 1868. The first meeting was held in the carpet room at Major Levi Kingsley's store on the west side of Merchants Row, next north of the Central House. In 1880 Levi G. Kingsley was post Commander. At that time there were about 180 members in this post, making it the largest in the state. The construction of Memorial Hall of the Grand Army of the Republic in Rutland was begun at 151 West Street in 1883. In 1931 it was torn down to make way for a new Federal Building and Post Office. The new building housed the Post Office, the Federal District Court and other federal offices. For several years the Rutland Free Library occupied quarters in the basement of Memorial Hall.

From an account in the Rutland Herald of March 11, 1931, loaned through the courtesy of Lawrence Udart, we append the history of the construction, use and demolition of Memorial Hall.

“ ‘ Slight nothing and hurry nothing — so that 100 years may look down and find everything in its exact place. ’

“ That was the order of the Selectmen of the Town of Rutland in 1886, when construction of Memorial Hall was started, and it quite likely reflected the attitude of the citizenry of the community of that time. Less than forty-five years later the attitude must have changed considerably for on March 10, 1931 nothing but the foundation of this memorial remained.



“ In 1883 the selectmen of Rutland Town were authorized to buy a plot of ground and to plan a building. A citizens' committee of General Edward H. Ripley, Senator Redfield Proctor, Judge W. G. Veazey, the Reverend Charles L. Boylan and William H. Woodward was appointed to co-operate with the selectmen. The Town voted \$25,000 and a public subscription raised funds to buy the Holmes tract of approximately 132 by 218 feet. Marble was donated by the many marble companies in the town. Milo Lyman was first superintendent of the construction and John C. Temple inspected the marble. Later, W. O. Morck succeeded Lyman as superintendent.

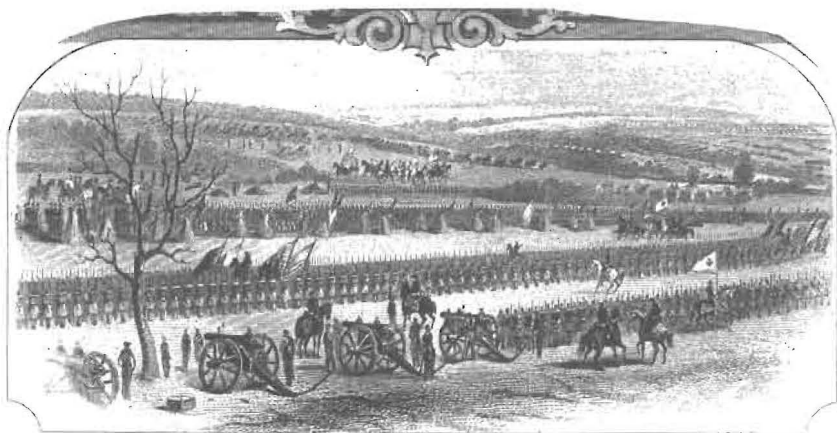
“ The Hall became a political issue in 1886, when, as a condition of the chartering of the separate towns of West Rutland and Proctor it was agreed that each of the three towns would support the completion of the building in proportion to each town’s Grand List. Title to the building passed to the Town and, when the City was chartered in 1892, it passed to the City.

“ For some reason, the Roberts Post of the G.A.R., the local veterans group of the Civil War, did not use the building as a meeting hall. The building was destined by the Selectmen of the town to be ‘something that will in time become a great museum of relics, souvenirs and records of every sort and kind of the War for the Union . . . of priceless value to those who shall come after us. ’

“ Plans for part of the building to be set aside for a public library were also included. Appropriately, a Rutland Free Library Association was formed in 1886. In March, 1889, the library moved to the lower floor of Memorial Hall. By 1890 the building was virtually completed.

“ Although relics, souvenirs and records were exhibited on the upper floor, there was no provision made to take care of them. The construction of the upper floors also made them relatively unsuitable for meeting places. Consequently, Memorial Hall became mainly the headquarters of the library.

“ So, in 1931 the City exchanged Memorial Hall for the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse on Court Street which was adapted for a library. Memorial Hall was levelled and a new U.S. Post Office and Courthouse constructed at the site. Memorial Hall became only a memory. ”



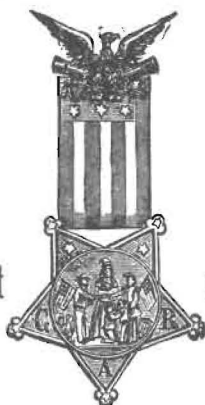
BY-LAWS
—OF—
ROBERTS POST,

NO.

14.

Department

of Vermont.



Grand Army of the Republic

RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Adopted March 24th, 1885.

RUTLAND:
PELTON PRINTING COMPANY.
1886.

GREETING.



To all soldiers of the late war, in Rutland and vicinity :

COMRADES :—Memorial-day, now by law a legal holiday, and always in a marked way 'soldiers' day, is this year particularly full of patriotic recollections. It is twenty years since the flag was first struck at, and the country, more in sorrow than in anger at this almost sacrilegious assault, gave her distress cry, and called upon all who loved the land of their fathers to stand by her in her hour of peril.

Fortunately, such defenders were neither few nor weak. The call reached to all, and almost more than were needed responded. The best treasure and best blood were freely given until that was accomplished which the world had before regarded as impossible. In a country comparatively new and already in debt, a gigantic war, costing hundreds of thousands of lives and thousands of millions of dollars, was carried on for four years and brought to a successful issue, and as soon as it was over the nation settled down to the accustomed occupations with quite as little excitement or reaction as usually succeeds an English coronation or French election.

And if the result of the war was new, the result of the era succeeding it is also new. The old order of "war, famine, pestilence," has been with us war, peace, unexampled prosperity. Sage counsels, wise legislation, excellent industry and thrift have prevailed. Other lands, inspired by the patent success of our own during these twenty years, have, not always wisely but never-

theless surely, advanced the cause of individual rights. In short, everything gives earnest that "this government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from off the earth," but shall one day stand like another Holy Land, the center from which republican principles and institutions shall have radiated, warmed and enlightened the whole world.

But we cannot forget, and each succeeding year reminds us that all this had its price, and that it was a dear one. We cannot forget that but for the willing sacrifice of these brave men who sleep in yonder graves it might have been otherwise. We cannot forget that while others gave much, these brave men gave all, and to their memory all honor is due.

We therefore invite and earnestly urge that all soldiers in Rutland and vicinity will be present as the guests of Post Roberts at the exercises in Rutland on the 30th day of May next, and with us heartily join in making the day fragrant with the memory of those who, though dead, at least on Memorial day shall always be faithfully remembered by us.

REDFIELD PROCTOR,
EDWARD H. RIPLEY,
P. R. KENDALL,
H. O. EDSON,
H. W. KINGSLEY,
T. B. KELLEY,
C. C. KINSMAN,
WALTER C. DUNTON,
L. G. KINGSLEY,
J. C. BAKER,
HENRY WEBB,
JOHN BRYDEN,
D. L. MORGAN,
A. T. WOODWARD,

For the Post.

Rutland, Vt., May 20, 1881.

**RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 CENTER STREET, RUTLAND, VERMONT
(802) 775-2006**

The society publishes the *Quarterly* for its members with the aim of preserving and studying the history of the Rutland community, which is comprised of the Towns of Rutland, Proctor and West Rutland and the City of Rutland. The Society maintains and operates a museum at 101 Center Street, Rutland, in the former Bank of Rutland building (built in 1825), now owned by the City of Rutland and leased to the Society at no charge.

Membership

Membership in the Society is open to all upon payment of dues to the
Membership Secretary—**Hope E. Hubbard**, 248 Lincoln Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701

Dues are \$3.00 per year for regular members; for those wishing to give the Society further support, a contributing membership is \$10.00; a business membership is \$25.00; a sustaining membership is \$100.00; and a life membership (one payment only) is \$75.00.

All members receive as part of their membership four issues of the *Quarterly*. The expiration date of each membership is listed on the mailing label of the publication. Members wishing to pay two or more years' dues in advance are encouraged to do so to reduce costs.

Manuscripts are invited; address correspondence to the Editor.

Gifts or bequests of money or articles of local historical interest are welcome at all times and are deductible for income tax purposes.

Editor: Michael L. Austin
Managing Editor: Jean C. Ross

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
101 Center Street
Rutland, Vermont 05701

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